



Welcome to our Newsletter!

[AEC Web Site](#)

November 7, 2012

Attend the AEC's Next Meeting!

The Annapolis Environmental Commission's (AEC) meetings are open to the public. We hope you'll join our upcoming discussion about environmental issues facing our city on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the third floor conference room at 145 Gorman Street, Annapolis, MD 21401. Our meeting dates have changed! AEC meetings are now held on the first Wednesday of every month.

Hurricane Sandy's Ecological Impact

We've all seen the devastation to people's lives and property in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. We're also exploring the effects of this storm on the Chesapeake Bay and the coastal environment. Nutrients such as sewage from overflowing treatment plants, farm runoff, and other organic material will dump tons of nutrients and bacteria into the Bay. This could cause algae blooms in the Spring. Sediment pouring into the Bay will affect oyster beds and subaquatic vegetation. Check out this [NPR article](#) to see more.

Update on the Crystal Spring Project

The AEC is currently in discussions with the developers of the Crystal Spring development that will combine commercial, retail, town homes, assisted living and entertainment facilities on 110 acres off of Forest Drive, near Annapolis Middle school. The developers have so far disregarded the Mayor's call to protect the environmental natural features on site, insisting that there is no way to go backwards in their concept designing planning process and that certain measure, such as increasing structured parking to decrease the impervious surface areas, are too expensive. We do note, however, that it does appear that there has been some movement recently to consider preserving as much forest as most other jurisdictions save. They are not close yet and not in agreement about where to save the most sensitive forest. The Mayor, who clearly cares about promoting growth while preserving our most valuable forests, has rightfully taken a strong stand on this issue. We are surprised by the developers' continued disregard of the Mayor's message and hope that will change so that the project can be filed and reviewed in a transparent way, in the near future.

Update on the Reserve at Quiet Waters

It is our understanding that the Board of Appeals has not issued their opinion on the Reserve at Quiet Waters. No discussion has taken place with the developers for the property since the Board of Appeals rejected the developers' application on September 19, 2012.

Events Calendar

Forest Stewardship Workshop - Thursday, November 8, 2012

[The Baltimore-Washington Partners for Forest Stewardship](#) and Maryland Department of Natural Resources are hosting their 4th Annual Workshop on **November 8th, 2012** at the Patuxent National Wildlife Visitor's Center in Laurel, Maryland. This year the topic is **Sustaining Nature in an Urbanizing Landscape**. We have some great speakers lined up, including our nationally renowned Keynote Speaker, Governor Parris N. Glendening, who will be joined by the Maryland Department of Planning Secretary Richard E. Hall. Explore how nature, growth and the built environment can coexist in ways that benefit us all. Join us in this conversation with national, state and local leaders in Smart Growth and Regional Planning. Learn how members of the Baltimore-Washington community are working to sustain nature in this urbanizing landscape. Registration (\$25) and information is at: <http://sustainingnature.eventbrite.com>.

Did you know that Sustainable Annapolis is on Facebook?
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New! The AEC is on [Facebook](#)!

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***November 7, 7:00 p.m.
145 Gorman Street, 3rd floor conference room***

*The AEC is an independent board consisting of nine City residents who are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Aldermen to be concerned with the protection and improvement of the natural health and welfare of the environment.
The views portrayed by the AEC are not necessarily shared by the City of Annapolis, staff or elected officials.*

Email: environment@annapolis.gov